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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

AFRICA.

Reports from Cape Colony—Plague—Examination for plague and plague-infected rodents.

Reports of the medical officer of health on the state of plague in Cape Colony during weeks ended April 2, 9, and 16, 1904.

WEEK ENDED APRIL 2, 1904.

Port Elizabeth.—No case of plague was discovered during the week. At the plague hospital 6 cases remain under treatment. Ninety-six rats and 40 mice were bacteriologically examined during the week, of which 10 rats and 2 mice proved to be plague infected.

Other places.—At East London, Uitenhage, Queenstown, King Williams Town, and Knysna no case of plague was discovered in man or animal during the week.

Cape Town and harbor board area.—Two hundred and sixty-five rats were examined during the week. None were found affected with plague.

WEEK ENDED APRIL 9, 1904.

Port Elizabeth.—No case of plague was discovered during the week. At the plague hospital 1 colored male and 1 colored female were discharged recovered. Four cases still remain under treatment. One hundred and six rats and 37 mice were bacteriologically examined during the week, of which 35 rats and 2 mice proved to be plague infected.

Other places.—At East London, Uitenhage, Queenstown, King Williams Town, and Knysna no case of plague was discovered in man or animals during the week.

Cape Town and harbor board area.—Three hundred rats were examined during the week. None were found affected with plague.

WEEK ENDED APRIL 16, 1904.

Port Elizabeth.—One case of plague was reported during the week, viz, a colored male, discovered after death, on the 12th instant.

At the plague hospital, 4 cases remain under treatment. Three hundred and forty-six rats and 122 mice were bacteriologically examined during the week, of which 219 rats and 27 mice proved to be plague infected.

Other places.—At East London, Uitenhage, Queenstown, King Williams Town, and Knysna no case of plague was discovered in man or animal during the week.

Cape Town and harbor board area.—Two hundred and fifty-six rats were examined during the week. None were found affected with plague.

A. JOHN GREGORY,
Medical Officer of Health for the Colony.

BRAZIL.

Report from Rio de Janeiro—Yellow fever and smallpox—Sanitary measures.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart reports, April 6, as follows:

During the week ended April 3, 1904, one vessel left this port for the United States. This was the steamship *Byron*, sailing on April 2. She carried a small cargo of coffee, and 22 first cabin and 13 steerage passengers from here. She also took on here 4 new members of the crew. Besides the passengers from this port, she carried a full complement of steerage passengers from Santos and points on the Rio Plata. All on board were in good health on the day of sailing, and accordingly a bill of health was issued to the ship.

Sanitary report of Rio de Janeiro.

During the week ended April 3 there were in all 304 deaths. Of this number 3 were caused by yellow fever, 1 of the fatal cases being in the person of a native and the other 2 in the persons of other than Brazilians.

There were notifications of 6 cases received during the week, and at the close of the week there were 3 cases under treatment at Sao Sebastiao Hospital.

There were no cases of bubonic plague reported, and no deaths therefrom. The close of the week saw but 4 cases, convalescents, at the Paulo Candido Hospital. Variola caused 30 deaths, with 54 cases reported, and at the end of the week there were 95 cases under treatment at São Sebastião Hospital. Of the yellow fever deaths, 1 death occurred in the Engenho Velho district of the city, and the other 2 in the Hospital São Sebastião. Measles caused 2 deaths, while there were none from scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria, dysentery, or leprosy.

Grippe caused 2 deaths, enteric fever 1, beriberi 2, malarial fevers 11, and tuberculosis 44.

The highest range of the thermometer during the week was on April 3, namely, 28.2° C., and the lowest on March 29, viz, 21.2° C. The daily average for the week was 24.35° C.

Up to date the total number of rats destroyed by the health authorities is 60,285.

In regard to the new sanitary law and the regulations in regard to bakeries made thereunder, Dr. Oswaldo Cruz, the director-general of public health, states that the object of the regulation affecting the bakeries was to secure impermeability to the flooring, and that in cases where that was properly secured by the actual tile and cement flooring there will be no necessity to alter it.

The substitution of marble for wooden tables and of special store-rooms with walls plastered with asphalt would, however, be insisted